

Appl. No. 09/926,439
Amdt. dated June 4, 2005
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 2, 2005

I. Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (Currently amended) A network resource access system for providing a network terminal ~~terminals~~ with access to a selected network resource device resources over a network for communication of translated source data from the network terminal to the network resource device, the ~~network resource access system~~ comprising:

a resource registry including resource configuration data records associated with the selected network resource device resources, the resource ~~records defining at least a resource type~~ for each said configuration data including a driver identifier for a resource driver associated with the selected network resource device, the resource driver for translating source data to produce the translated source data in a format suitable for processing by the network resource device;

~~a driver database including resource driver applications for the network resources; and~~

an authorization server ~~for facilitating communication between~~ receiving a request from the network terminal terminals for communication access to the selected network resource device resources, the request configured to include a device identifier associated with the selected network resource device and user configuration data associated with the network terminal, the authorization server being configured for determining the network terminal is authorized to access, according to the user configuration data, the selected network resource device associated with the device identifier and for determining the network terminal is configured with the resource driver associated with the driver identifier, in communication with the resource registry and the driver database for providing the driver applications to the network terminals in accordance with the resource records.

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Claim 2 (Currently amended) The ~~network resource access~~ system according to claim 1, wherein ~~each said network terminal has an associated terminal configuration, and the resource records include the resource configuration data further includes~~ a user access level, and the authorization server is configured to ~~receive from one of the network terminals a request to communicate with one of the network resources, to provide the one network terminal with the network driver application associated with the one network resource~~ configure the resource driver in accordance with a correspondence between the ~~terminal configuration~~ user configuration data of the one network terminal and the user access level associated with the one network resource device.

Claim 3 (Currently amended) The ~~network resource access~~ system according to claim 2, wherein the ~~resource records define~~ user configuration data includes at least one of a network address associated with the network terminal and a username associated with a user of the network terminal, each said network resource, and the authorization server is configured to configure the associated driver application with the respective network address.

Claim 4 (Currently amended) The ~~network resource access~~ system according to claim 3, wherein the authorization server is configured to establish a secure communications channel with the one network terminal, and to provide ~~the a associated driver application of the network terminal configured with the resource driver~~ with the respective network terminal address over the secure communications channel.

Claim 5 (Currently amended) A method for providing a network terminal terminals with access to a selected network resource device resources over a network for communication of translated source data from the network terminal to the network resource device, the method comprising the steps of:

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receiving a request from ~~one of~~ the network terminal ~~terminals~~ for communication access ~~to with one of the selected network resource device resources, the request including a device identifier associated with the selected network resource device and user configuration data associated with the network terminal;~~

obtaining resource configuration data associated with the ~~one~~ selected network resource device as identified by the device identifier, the resource configuration data including a driver identifier for a resource driver associated with the network resource device, the resource driver for translating source data to produce the translated source data in a format suitable for processing by the network resource device; and

determining the network terminal is authorized to access, according to the facilitating communication between the one network terminal and the one network resource in accordance with a correspondence between the resource configuration data and user configuration data, the selected network resource device associated with the one network terminal device identifier; and
determining the network terminal is configured with the resource driver associated with the driver identifier.

Claim 6 (Deleted)

Claim 7 (Currently amended) The method according to claim 6 5, wherein the resource configuration data includes a network address associated with the device identifier of the one network resource device, and the ~~communication-facilitating~~ configuring step comprises configuring the a network driver application of the network terminal with the network address.

Claim 8 (Currently amended) The method according to claim 7, wherein the ~~communication facilitating~~ configuring step comprises the steps of establishing a secure communications channel with the ~~one~~ network terminal, and providing the ~~driver application~~ network terminal with the

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network address over the secure communications channel.

Claim 9 (Currently amended) The method according to claim 6 ~~5~~, wherein ~~each said network terminal has an associated terminal configuration, and~~ the resource configuration data includes a user access level, and the ~~communication facilitating~~ configuring step comprises providing the network terminal with the network address driver application in accordance with a correspondence between the ~~terminal user configuration data~~ of the ~~one~~ network terminal and the user access level associated with the ~~one~~ network resource device.

Claim 10 (Deleted)

Claim 11 (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the resource configuration data defines a network address associated with the network resource device, and the authorization server is configured to configure a driver application of the network terminal with the respective network address.

Claim 12 (New) The system according to claim 1, wherein the network resource device is selected from the group comprising a printer, a facsimile machine, an image server, a file server, an e-mail pager, and an e-mail enabled wireless telephone.

Claim 13 (New) The system according to claim 1, wherein the translated source data is selected from the group comprising: text; image; and multimedia data.

Claim 14 (New) The system according to claim 11, wherein the network address identifies the Internet Protocol address of a server linking the network resource device to the network.

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Claim 15 (New) The system according to claim 1, wherein the authorization server compares the driver identifier of the resource configuration data with a driver identifier of an installed resource driver on the network terminal to determine if the network terminal has been configured with the appropriate resource driver of the selected network resource device.

Claim 16 (New) The system according to claim 1, wherein the resource driver is selected from the group comprising a generic resource driver and a network resource device specific driver.

Claim 17 (New) The method according to claim 5, wherein the network resource device is selected from the group comprising a printer, a facsimile machine, an image server, a file server, an e-mail pager, and an e-mail enabled wireless telephone.

Claim 18 (New) The method according to claim 5, wherein the resource driver is selected from the group comprising a generic resource driver and a network resource device specific driver.

Claim 19 (New) The method according to claim 5 further comprising the step of comparing the driver identifier of the resource configuration data with a driver identifier of an installed resource driver on the network terminal to determine if the network terminal has been configured with the appropriate resource driver of the selected network resource device.

Claim 20 (New) The method according to claim 7, wherein the network address identifies an Internet Protocol address of a server linking the network resource device to the network.

Claim 21 (New) The method according to claim 5, wherein the translated source data is selected from the group comprising: text; image; and multimedia data.

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Claim 22 (New) The system according to claim 14, wherein the network resource device is located behind a firewall and the server is a proxy server located in front of the firewall, the proxy server for facilitating communication of the translated source data across the firewall to the network resource device.